



<https://www.lcms.org/payne>

### Culture Bites

Here you will find a small sample, tiny nibble or little bite of some of the things we are learning about Tanzania.

Tanzanian Holidays vary from the same as the USA or the same but celebrated on different days and some of their own.

Tanzania celebrates Christmas and Easter as does the USA. They also have their Independence Day on Dec. 9th and celebrate Labor Day on May 1st.

They also have their own unique holidays like Nane Nane Day (Nane literally means 8 in Swahili) held August 8th annually to recognize the important contribution of farmers to the national Tanzanian economy.

Union Day on April 26th is celebrated in honor of the two independent states, the Republic of Tanganyika and the People's Republic of Zanzibar, merging to form the United Republic of Tanzania on April 26, 1964.



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# Let's Give Thanks



*Celebrating Thanksgiving in Shinyanga, TZ with Tiffany Smith (Lutheran Bible Translator), Rev. Silas Mkiramweni, Rev. Ibrahim Kipiki, and Steven Temba (friends from Tanzania).*

Dear Friends and Family,

This hymn always burst from our lips when we think about giving thanks to God. Even the children love to sing this hymn out loud and proud! We do indeed give God all the glory and thanks for what He has done for us. In our own lives, we have so much to be thankful for. Last November found us traveling around the United States of America (USA) visiting many churches and people to tell them all about what we have been called to do. We even spent Thanksgiving with family! This year looks very different. We are now in Tanzania! We are celebrating this distinctly US Holiday of Thanksgiving with another American here in our area, Tiffany Smith who is a Lutheran Bible Translator. We also invited some of our Tanzanian friends to celebrate with us. We prepared many of our favorite dishes from the USA to share and celebrate as we give thanks to God for all He has done this past year.

*Now thank we all our God  
With hearts and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done,  
In whom His world rejoices;  
Who from our mothers arms  
Has blest us on our way  
With countless gifts of love  
And still is ours today.*

~ LSB 895 v1

We give thanks to God first for ALL of you! Yes, you who have supported us in many, various ways, some with prayers, financially, reading our newsletters or even sending us greetings! We give thanks for having safely traveled so far, all the way to Tanzania; for learning Swahili in Iringa, with wonderful teachers and host family there; moving to Shinyanga and finding a wonderful house that we are slowly making our home; our partners the South East of Lake Victoria Dioces (SELVD) helping us with everything including but not limited to transportation, VISAS, finding a house, learning how to live in Shinyanga, valuing us as family (our children even call some of the Pastors Uncles and their children their brothers and sisters!) The SELVD's enthusiasm to have us work alongside them; and so much more. We are also thankful for



## GIVE THANKS FOR:

- The South East of Lake Victoria Diocese as they teach students at their new seminary.
- Continued good health.
- Our continued learning of Swahili.
- Our acquisition of a vehicle.
- This wonderful year spent in Tanzania.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Our families continued health.
- The ongoing classes at the new seminary.

## PRAISE GOD FOR:

- The many congregations and individuals who pray for, encourage and support us in so many ways, **such as you!**



Rory and Dalton enjoying Thanksgiving!

meeting the Africa LCMS missionaries at the annual Continuing Education held in Uganda this year and the retreat held in South Africa earlier this year. We are thankful for the other Missionaries in the Shinyanga area and working alongside them as well! It takes the body time to adjust to a new culture, diet and foods, yet we are so thankful for our health and very few sicknesses.

Very recently, just this month in fact, we give thanks to God for a vehicle! We have our own vehicle, we just need to go pick it up from Dar es Salam!

*“We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers,” (1 Thes. 1:2).*

God’s Peace,

Rev. Bryan, Dcs. Keah, Rory, & Dalton



## Kids’ Corner

The children also have so much to thank God for. Some of those things include: tables and chairs (instead of boxes and stools), good fresh foods (the carrots and fruits are their favorite of course) as well as some familiar favorites like Nutella and Pringles, new friends they have made here but also for all our friends and family back in the USA who support us being here.



There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at [lcms.org/service](https://lcms.org/service).

Prayerfully consider partnering with the LCMS to support the work of Rev. Bryan and Dcs. Keah Payne. Make checks payable to:

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